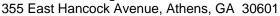
GEORGIA NEWS RELEASE



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GEORGIA'S EGG PRODUCTION UP

The State's laying flocks produced 393 million eggs during August 2006, up 1 percent from the 388 million produced in August of last year, according to the USDA, NASS, Georgia Field Office. August production included 216 million table eggs, up 2 percent from last year, and 177 million hatching eggs, the same as last year.

The average number of layers in all flocks, regardless of size, for August was 18.8 million, slightly less than a year ago. The average number consisted of 9.60 million layers in table egg flocks 30,000 and above, and 9.12 million layers for hatching eggs. Eggs laid per 100 layers during August averaged 2,088, up 1 percent from the previous year. All layers on September 1, 2006 totaled 18.7 million, down 1 percent from September 1, 2005 inventory. The rate of lay per day during August 2006 averaged 67.4 eggs per 100 layers, up 2 percent from the 66.4 eggs a year ago.

August 2006 hatch of broiler-type chicks, at 127 million, was up 5 percent from August of the previous year. Egg-type chicks hatched during August totaled 2.07 million, down 10 percent from a year ago.

U.S. AUGUST EGG PRODUCTION UP 1 PERCENT

U.S. egg production totaled 7.64 billion during August 2006, up 1 percent from last year. Production included 6.56 billion table eggs, and 1.08 billion hatching eggs, of which 1.01 billion were broiler-type and 65 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during August 2006 averaged 341 million, up slightly from last year. August egg production per 100 layers was 2,239 eggs, up 1 percent from August 2005.

All layers in the U.S. on September 1, 2006, totaled 342 million, up 1 percent from last year. The 342 million layers consisted of 285 million layers producing table or market type eggs, 53.9 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 2.73 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate of lay per day on September 1, 2006, averaged 72.6 eggs per 100 layers, up 1 percent from September 1, 2005.

Broiler-type chicks hatched during August 2006 totaled 809 million, down slightly from August 2005. Eggs in incubators totaled 656 million on September 1, 2006, up slightly from a year earlier.

Egg-type chicks hatched during August 2006 totaled 34.9 million, down 10 percent from August 2005. Eggs in incubators totaled 35.8 million on September 1, 2006, up 4 percent from a year ago.